



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON
DISABILITIES
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
<http://laccod.org>**

Wednesday, August 20, 2014

1:00 PM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (14-3837)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Call to Order. (14-3526)

President Janet A. Neal called the meeting to order at 1:10pm.

President Janet A. Neal welcomed newly appointed, Carlos Benavides to the Commission on Disabilities. Commissioner Carlos Benavides provided a brief background on himself.

Present: President Janet A. Neal, 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, 2nd Vice President John B. Troost, Treasurer Winslow C. Reitnouer, Commissioner Carlos Benavides, Commissioner Steve Miller, Commissioner Alexia Teran and Commissioner Wan Chun Chang

Absent: Commissioner Maria Mustelier-Parrish

Excused: Commissioner Edward A. Colley, Commissioner Michael Gureckas, Commissioner John R. James, Commissioner Kecia Brooke Weller and Commissioner Sheila D. Wright

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Approval of the Minutes from the meeting of June 18, 2014. (14-2584)

On motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Alexia Teran, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

2. Receive and File the Summary of Notes from the meeting of July 16, 2014. (14-3243)

On motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Alexia Teran, this item was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

3. Recommendation as submitted by President Janet A. Neal: Approve the reappointment of John B. Troost as the Commission on Disabilities' Access Services Board representative for 2014-2015. (14-2910)

On motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Treasurer Winslow C. Reitnouer, the reappointment of John B. Troost as the Commission on Disabilities' Access Services Board representative for 2014-15 was approved.

4. Discussion and recommendation by the Executive Committee to approve funding for the Access reception to be held in October 2014, in an amount not to exceed \$1,800. (14-3614)

After discussion, on motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Alexia Teran, the Commission approved funding for the October 2014 Access reception in an amount not to exceed \$1,800 and authorized the President to increase the amount if needed, towards any additional permits and security fees for the event.

Commissioner Steve Miller expressed his concerns regarding the Commission's budget and offered to make a personal contribution towards the event.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

5. Review and approval of the meeting attendance letter to Commissioners. (14-2305)

Commissioners present noted their on-going support and attendance to future meetings.

After discussion, on motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Alexia Teran, the attendance letter to Commissioners was approved for distribution.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

6. Discussion and recommendation by the Executive Committee to amend the term limits in Article VI of the current Bylaws. (14-3615)

After discussion, on motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Winslow C. Reitnouer, the Commission approved the Executive Committee's recommendation to amend the term limits in Article VI of the current Bylaws; and instructed staff to place on the agenda of September 17, 2014 for final approval:

Ayes: 6 - President Janet A. Neal, 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, 2nd Vice President John B. Troost, Treasurer Winslow C. Reitnouer, Commissioner Carlos Benavides and Commissioner Alexia Teran

Noes: 1 - Commissioner Steve Miller

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Maria Mustelier-Parrish

Excused: 5 - Commissioner Edward A. Colley, Commissioner Michael Gureckas, Commissioner John R. James, Commissioner Kecia Brooke Weller and Commissioner Sheila D. Wright

Attachments: [Approved Revised Bylaws 2013](#)
[Proposed Amendment to Bylaws](#)

II. PRESENTATION

7. Update report by Jeff Lustgarten, Metrolink Public Affairs Director regarding Personal Care Assistant (PCA) fare increases as requested at the meeting of March 19, 2014 (Continued from the meeting of June 18, 2014). (14-1776)

Jeff Lustgarten informed the Commission that MetroLink had discontinued their policy regarding Personal Care Attendants (PCA) and requiring PCA customers to pay \$25 for an identification card to ride the MetroLink with their patients. For now, the new policy will allow PCAs to ride the MetroLink free-of-charge and reimburse those that have already purchased passes related to the previous policy. The policy is presently being re-evaluated. Mr. Lustgarten thanked the Commission for their support and input.

President Janet A. Neal invited Mr. Lustgarten to the next Transportation Committee meeting scheduled for September 10, 2014.

Members of the public, Eva Guzman, and Genevieve Clavreul addressed the Commission.

III. REPORTS**8. President's Report for August 2014. (14-2954)**

President Janet A. Neal reported that she was interviewed on an internet radio show called "Baby Boomers" and spoke on issues related to disabilities. She also noted NBC Universal was speaking to her and showed interest in financing the radio show. They were also interested in a possible story about the Commission on Disabilities.

President Janet A. Neal inquired about the discussion item for the Commission to be a non-financial sponsor to her radio show, "Janet's Planet".

9. Executive Committee Report for August 2014. (14-3110)

President Janet A. Neal reported that the Executive Committee met on August 13, 2014 to discuss the Commission's non-financial sponsorship of the radio program, Commission Bylaws and the Access Reception. She noted the Event Committee's plans, overall vision and logistics of the Access Reception event, including letters written by scholarship recipients enlarged with their picture displayed in various places at the reception for guests to view.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

10. Monthly Staff Report by Emma De Jesus. (14-3527)

Emma De Jesus, staff, reported on the following:

- As requested by Commissioner Teran, the letter for scholarship donations were mailed twice by staff to Los Angeles City Councilman Gil Cedillo and United States House of Representative Congressman Xavier Beccera.**
- During the Events Committee meeting a notice was received by a member of the public, inviting the Commission to the Asian and Pacific Islander's Hope & Recovery Conference scheduled for October 29, 2014 at Almansor Court.**
- As suggested by the Events and Executive Committees, County Counsel will provide its written opinion on the feasibility of the Commission's non-financial sponsorship to "Janet's Planet" radio program.**

- **Commissioner Teran stated that Congressman Becerra never received the letters sent by staff earlier this year and requested staff to send a third letter. She will verify an alternate mailing address and provide it to staff.**

- 11. Report on the State Budget to fund community-based organizations that provide support to people with disabilities, as submitted by Commissioner Steve Miller (Continued from the meetings of 05/21/14 and 06/18/14). (14-2392)**

Commissioner Steve Miller reported the State of California has not increased funding to community-based organization that provide support to people with disabilities since the late 1980's. He suggested a letter be sent to the Board of Supervisors to support an increase in funding for the 85,000 constituents in Los Angeles County in need of services.

After discussion, on motion of President Janet A. Neal, seconded by 2nd Vice President John B. Troost, unanimously carried, the Commission approved to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors, urging them to support equitable and sustainable funding of programs that financially support people with disabilities and their families.

Commissioner Miller will draft the letter for Commission review and approval.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 12. Report on In-Home Support Services as submitted by Commissioner Wendy Welt Narro. (14-3379)**

1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro reported that the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program reinstated 1% of the hours to workers from the previous deduction of 8% implemented last year. She also added, IHSS caregivers who work over 40 hours a week will receive time-and-a-half for up to an additional 26 hours, however, the stipulations in obtaining the overtime is unclear.

President Janet A. Neal suggested that 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro request someone to come before the Commission to discuss annual certification for the disabled and address IHSS services regarding heavy cleaning and yard work. 1st President Wendy Welt Narro will contact IHSS to address her concerns.

Members of the Public, Genevieve Clavreul and Antha Abraham provided public comments.

13. Monthly Report by Standing Committees:

- Education: Commissioners Troost (Chair), James, Neal
- Events: Commissioners Neal (Chair), Troost, Reitnouer, Teran, Wright
- Transportation: Commissioners Neal (Chair), Reitnouer, Troost, Teran
- Housing: Commissioner Wendy Welt Narro (14-3538)

Education

No report was presented.

Events

Chair Janet A. Neal, Events Committee, discussed the Access Reception that is tentatively scheduled for October 20, 2014 at 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. They also discussed the layout logistics, sponsorship and participation.

Transportation

Chair Janet A. Neal reported that she will speak before the State Access Commission regarding Pierce College and their need for more blue curbs and parking for students with disabilities.

Housing

Chair Wendy Welt Narro will research any further County, State, Federal ordinance or policy that will ensure housing for persons that use canes, walkers, and/or wheelchairs for disabled constituents in new buildings being constructed or remodeled and address housing for the physically disabled.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

14. Monthly Report by Louis Burns, Access Services Customers Support Administrator, Access Services Incorporated. (14-2617)

Louis Burns reported that effective July 2014, Access vehicles will no longer accommodate more than three people per vehicle (does not include vans or buses). He also thanked 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro and her husband Anthony Narro for reporting a reckless Access Services driver. Mr. Narro also suggested that Access apply a "How am I driving?" sticker to each of the vehicle of which Mr. Burns embraced and will report the suggestion to his office.

Commissioner Carlos Benavides complimented an Access Services driver for taking an unscheduled stranded passenger.

Members of the public, Anthony Narro and Eva Gomez provided public comments.

- 15.** Monthly Report presented by Jess Segovia, ADA Manager, and Giovanna Gogreve, ADA Para-transit Program Administrator for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO). (14-3244)

Giovanna Gogreve updated the Commission on recently implemented policies of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro). Passengers who are diabetic, will be allowed to consume food and beverages in their vehicles and service animals boarding vehicles will walk on a heat shield to prevent them from burning their paws.

Ms. Gogreve also reported that in preparation and throughout the Labor Day Celebration of the Made in America event, in Grand Park, Downtown Los Angeles, Metro will collaborate with Access Services to provide transportation for those with disabilities to the entrance of the event.

In addition, Ms. Gogreve, reported that Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center rail shuttle continues to increase its passenger services. It has increased from 70 to 630 trips per month. She will provide a statistical report at the next Commission meeting.

Genevieve Clavreul provided public comments.

President Janet A. Neal thanked Ms. Gogreve and presented her a Certificate of Appreciation from the Commission.

- 16.** Discussion of the impact that the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) has on people living with disabilities by Commissioner Edward A. Colley. (13-4719)

By Common Consent and there being no objection, the item was continued, with no discussion, to a future meeting.

- 17.** Commissioner Announcements. (14-3112)
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DRAFT

1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro reported that Hub City Autism Network invited her to be the guest speaker of their August 9, 2014 event.

President Janet A. Neal presented Certificates of Appreciation to 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro and 2nd Vice President John B. Troost.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

- 18.** Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the Committee, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (14-2625)

The following item was introduced for discussion and placed on the agenda for consideration at a future meeting.

- 18A.** Recommendation as submitted by President Janet A. Neal: Discussion on the feasibility of the Commission to become a non-financial supporter to Janet's Planet radio show, through KTYM. (14-3886)

On motion of President Janet A. Neal, and by common consent, there being no objection, this item was introduced for discussion and placed on the agenda of September 17, 2014.

Public Comment

- 19.** Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (14-3539)

Genevieve Clavreul provided public comments.

Adjournment

- 20.** Adjournment for the meeting of August 20, 2014. (14-3540)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m. in the memory of Robin Williams.